

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1739 without my signature.

While I support the need to focus attention on finding adequate legal services for low-income Californians by encouraging pro bono work by lawyers, assisting self-represented litigants, and improving access to the courts, this bill fails to accomplish these goals.

The California Commission on Access to Justice did excellent work in 2002 by producing the first report, *The Path to Equal Justice: A Five-Year Status Report on Access to Justice in California*. The Commission is willing to prepare the next report without the need for a statutory mandate. It is unclear what this bill would accomplish that could not be addressed or achieved administratively.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill at this time.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger